CMC Denver Backpacking Section (BPX)
May 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Accepted May 17, 2021

Attendees: Uwe Sartori, Linda Lawson, Steve Wolf, Louise Campbell-Blair, Randy Blosser, Neil Arthur, Mike Holden, Mercedes Aponte, Bill Greer

Absent: Danielle Piscatelli, Cheryl Harmel, Maggie Burns, Pat McKinley, Leila Murphy

Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 pm
Meeting Adjourned: 8:27 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 8

Business Agenda:

Chair Comments: Uwe emphasized need for teamwork within the functional roles each member holds to successfully execute the 2021 and 2022 Goals and Objectives. He messaged “the strength, talents and diversity of committee members, expressing total confidence in the future of the Backpacking Section.”

Action Items: Linda identified the Communications and Membership 2022 Operating Plan Drafts were complete having received no comments from committee. The 2022 Trips Operating Plan Draft was due 5/11 on which Steve is working. The Events Plan 2022 Operating Plan will be provided by Danielle prior to the June meeting.

The Action Items will be posted on the Google Drive and each Functional Responsibility will be updating tasks monthly.

Electronic Communications: The following items were emphasized: Lack of financial statements from Denver Group Treasurer; Standby Pool of Members Willing to Go on BPX Trips on Short Notice.

Discussion ensued with actions to be taken. See Open Items Resolution

New Business, by Function:

Dues Discount – Uwe advised a few CMC Denver Trip Leaders and one School Director requested complimentary dues which was authorized as acknowledged good will and marketing. Should there be an influx of non BPX Trip Leaders and School Directors requesting complimentary dues in the future a policy discussion would be needed.

Membership Statistics - Louise reported 25 new members in April and 26 members renewed membership late. Total new members January through April 118. Discussion ensued regarding renewal communication needs. Neil and Mercedes to develop communications program for BPX membership renewal.

Research Team – Louise reported Mike has developed two macros for Membership Reporting and Trip Reporting easing the manual comparatives required. Development of macros slowed work Mike is accomplishing to compare BPX offerings with those of Alpine 4.

Trip Leader & Trip Leader Development Functions – Mercedes reported contacting BPX Pack Leaders who had not claimed a trip with positive results of two additional trips added currently and two other trips to be added in the fall.

Bill is updating Trip Leader Guidelines and will send draft to Uwe, Linda, Louise, Steve.

Trips Coordinator – Steve reported 66 trips calendared although several trips developed by leaders with inconsistent presentations. Discussion ensued with agreement Uwe would contact those leaders needing to complete trip descriptions in compliance with BPX model. Discussion identified need for consistent presentation to members of BPX product. Trip
Summary to be updated by Steve and provided as part of Trip Leader Guidelines Bill is updating. Uwe contacted 10 members who registered for more than 3 trips asking them to comply with guidelines provided of no more than 3 trips at one time, including Standby. Members may register for additional trips a month out from trip start date if the roster is open.

Communications, Events, Social Media, Newsletter - Gear Checks for May 21/22 and June 18/19 to be opened to ALL CMC members due to slow fill rate. Dinorah provided FB stats which show upward trend in posts and members of the group. Event Coordinators will be laying out a plan for “subscriber exclusive concept” similar to that Backpacker Magazine uses. The subscription concept would build content offerings. Educational offerings are an avenue to build member value.

General – Randy reported no activity required for CoTREX. Recordings are available online. Discussion of whether there should be an annual live update ensued.

Close & Wrap Up – Uwe thanked Linda for her service. Louise expressed appreciation for the Committee hikes Uwe has organized; Uwe will offer additional hikes through a Doodle poll.

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Open Items Resolution:
Official Group Size change from 4 to 3 for hiking, backpacking and from 4 to 2 for climbs. Pilot authorized for Backpacking Section. Notification received from Keegan Young, and information sent to Pack Leaders.

Uwe Sartori, Pat McKinley, Linda Lawson designated BPX Instructor Leaders for backpacking and other trip types for which they are individually qualified.

Pool of Standby Members Willing to Backpack on Short Notice to be developed by placing article in newsletter. This action was part of “Slay the Dragon” Roster Churn reduction identified in the fall by the committee.

Open Items Unresolved:
Trips Complete vs Trip Days Completed – issue stalled due to lack of staff available.

Submitted by: Linda Lawson
May 17, 2021